CHAPTER XII.

OF FOREST-OFFICERS.

Local Government may invest Forest-officers with certain powers.

71. The Local Government may invest any Forest-officer by name, or as holding an office, with the following powers, that is to say :—

(*a*) power to enter upon any land and to survey, demarcate and make a map of the same;

(*b*) the powers of a Civil Court to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents;

(*c*) power to issue a search-warrant under the Code of Criminal Procedure[1]; X of 1872.

(*d*) power to hold an inquiry into forest-offences, and, in the course of such inquiry, to receive and record evidence.

Any evidence recorded under clause (*d*) of this section shall be admissible in any subsequent trial before a Magistrate, provided that it has been taken in the presence of the accused person.

Forest-officers deemed public servants.

72. All Forest-officers shall be deemed to be public servants within the meaning of the Indian Penal Code[2]. XLV of 1860.

Indemnity for acts done in good faith.

73. No suit shall lie against any public servant for anything done by him in good faith under this Act.

Forest-officers not to trade.

74. Except with the permission in writing of the Local Government, no Forest-officer shall, as principal or agent, trade in timber or other forest-produce, or be or become interested in any lease of any forest or in any contract for working any forest, whether in British or Foreign territory.

CHAPTER XIII.

[1] *Read now* the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898). *See* now the revised edition of the Act, as modified up to 1st April, 1903.

[2] *See* now the revised edition of the Code, as modified up to 1st April, 1903.